

ANATOMY
and
PHYSIOLOGY
of
RELIGION

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Preface

Anatomy and physiology are the terminologies commonly used in medical literature. Anatomy denotes a science which deals with the structure and position of the various organs in the human body. Physiology is the science which deals with the functions of various organs and the systems in the body.

The religion is also organizational body, which has its own specific structure and various faculties which are supposed to carry out various functions. There are various faculties in the religion. Each of the faculties is assigned specific task to perform.

Synergistic effect of the entire task performed by the faculties, ultimately leads to final goal of the religion. Ultimate goal of the religion is to create harmony among the human beings which ultimately leads to peace and happiness in the life of human being.

This small booklet deals with the structure and functions of the religions prevailing on this earth. I have tried to explain and analyze various philosophies preached by various religions.

As such each religion is unique in its nature and character. Each religion has its own

culture and specificity. Ultimate goal of most of the religions is to worship the God, with the intention to bring peace, harmony and happiness in human life. Founders of each religion had design specific path and methodology for achieving the ultimate goal of the life.

The person is free to select his own path, or he himself may design new path to achieve the ultimate goal of life, i.e. peace and happiness.

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Index

1] What is religion?

Dharma:

Major Religions of the World

2] Evolution of religion:

3] Growth of the religion:

Bifurcations of the religion:

Decline of the religion:

4] Concept and various perception of the religion:

Monotheism and polytheism:

Atheism:

Atheist and Agnostics:

Difference between

non-religious and atheist:

Agnostic and non-religious:

5] Philosophy of death:

6] Ultimate Goal of life:

7] Eschatology:

8] Worshiping the God:

Temple:

Religious literature:

9] Importance of religion:

10] Miracles:

Theory of hell and heaven:

11] Why people join religion?

12] Religious wars:

Religious conversions:

13] Faith and blind faith in the religion:

14] Religion a tool for getting material benefit:

15] Factors common in each religion:

16] Natural Religion:

**17] Designing the life style or the
Dharma for the self:**

Anatomy and physiology of religion.

What is religion?

There are multiple religions on the earth. Some of them are followed by the people almost in every part of the world while some of them are having limited followers and are localized to some specific parts of the world. Each religion has its own beliefs, sermons, scriptures, churches, and well established system for the prayers.

Definition : it is very difficult to formulate common definition for the religion, but the definition can throw some light on the character of the religion.

Religion is the belief in and reverence for a supernatural power accepted as the creator and governor of the universe, a specific united system of this expression.

Religion is the emotional or spiritual attitude of one who recognizes existence of super human power or powers.

Anthropologist Clifford Beertz, defined religion as a ' system of symbols, which acts to

establish powerful, pervasive and long lasting moods and motivations in man by formulating conceptions of a general order of existence, and clothing those conceptions with such an aura of factuality that the moods and motivations seem uniquely realistic.

The religion is philosophical ideology regarding creation of universe, creation of living and non- living objects, and its creator along with established systems for its followers.

Philosophical ideology is the pivot of the religious wheel. The established system of the religion is connected with, and revolved round the central pivot of philosophical ideology. It is also said that the religion is the substance, the ground, and the depth of man's spiritual life.

Dharma:

Word 'Dharma' is the word from Sanskrit language. It has its own specific meaning. Usually it denotes religion. But its exact meaning is '*specific character of subject or object*'. One can say that the Dharma of fire is to burn, and Dharma of water is to wet the object. Dharma of king is to rule, and Dharma of soldier is to fight for the nation. Same way Dharma of the human being is humanity. It

means all the Dharma must lead man to its specific purpose of humanity.

None of the definitions or meaning can explain fully and totally the specific nature of all the religions on world. As per the estimate there are more than 4200 religions on the earth. Each of the religion has its own specificity and uniqueness. With the effect no single definition can fully justify the meaning, character, and structure all the religions on earth.

For example if a person analyzes Buddha religion, then he will realize that Lord Buddha did not clarify in his preaching regarding existence and functions of God. Again Buddhism is so complicated and elaborate that one require life time to understand it completely. At the same time some of the folk religions are very simple, some of them believe that snake is the God, and preying the snake will give prosperity and protection to the individual and family.

It is also difficult for the common man to fully understand, meaning of the religion by simply reading highly sophisticated definitions. For the common man religion means,

- 1] There exists supreme power, who is known as God, and who is the creator and protector of the universe.

- 2] The God rules the universe with his absolute power.
- 3] He punishes those who are doing sinful actions, and give rewards to the people for doing good actions.
- 4] It is the duty of the man to please the God, and that can be done by regular prayers and worship.
- 5] There are set-rules and commandments, either dictated by the God himself, or by his representative, which are mandatory for the followers of that religion.

Major Religions of the World Ranked by Number of Adherents

There are innumerable religions in the world. As per the rough estimate there are more than 4300 religions. Some of them are so small that instead of naming them as separate religion, one can say that they are different faith groups or cult.

In well established religions, there are divisions and subdivisions. If we identify them as individual religion, then the total number may be more than 8000.

Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism are the four major religions in the world. As per the available statistics 33 % of the world

population is covered by Christianity. This includes Catholics, Protestants, and number of other small divisions, which functions as independent religion. 21% of the population is covered by Islam, which includes Shia, sunni, sufi and bahai etc. 14% of the population is covered by Hinduism. Majoriy of them are in India. 6 % of the population is covered by Buddhism. 10 % of the world population believes in other religions like, Judaism, Shikhism, Chinese traditional, African traditional and other small religions.

Christianity [including all its branches]	33 %
Islam [shia sunni etc]	21%
Hinduism	14%
Buddhism	6%
Chinese traditional	6%
Others	16%
Non-religious	16%

Almost 16% of the world population is non-religious. They are either agnostic or atheist. Either they do not believe in God or do not believe in any specific religion. There is new trend gradually spreading in the population. They called themselves as non-religious but spiritual. They do not believe in traditional religious ceremonies and rituals. They do not believe in going regularly to the church or temple. But they believe in super human

power and basic philosophy related to super human power.

Figures given above are rough estimates of the followers of specific religion. On detail analysis one can logically conclude that the real believers in the specific religion are much less than that. For example one family is believer of Hindu faith. Now there are three adults and three children in the family. Roughly one can say that there are six persons, who believe in Hindu faith. But as such those small children are having no mental maturity to understand the meaning of religion. So de-jury there are six followers of Hindu faith, but de-facto only three are the real followers.

It is also observed that with the progress of the scientific knowledge, more and more persons have started doubting the religious traditions, rituals, and mythological stories.

It is also observed that more and more educated and rational people are withdrawing themselves from the traditional rituals and religious ceremonies. *There is sizable number of people in the world who consider themselves as non-religious but spiritual.*

Evolution of religion:

There are numerous theories forwarded by various research agencies, regarding evolution of religion. But none of the theories can satisfy rational and logical mind. Most of the religions are more than 2000 years old. The text books of various religions and their mythological descriptions state regarding the foundation of that specific religion and its development. As per the statement of the bible, Jesus Christ was the founder of Christianity. Before that Moses had received Ten Commandments from super human power. Islam was evolved in middle- east, and Prophet Mohamed was the founder. Buddha religion was originated in India, and Lord Buddha was the founder. It is also believed that Vedas are the base for Sanatan Dharma. [Hindu religion, as popularly known.] It is also mentioned that Vedas were created by God himself.

Nobody can prove with assurance, the authenticity of all the mythological stories written in various books. Even it is very difficult to ascertain the correct age of any religion.

Religion is the organizational body. Most of the major religions are like huge tree. The starting point of the tree is its seed. When the seed is

kept in the favorable environment, it starts growing. It takes long years to reach to its maturity. During the growth, it takes its new shape and color. Number of branches, leaves, flowers and fruits are added. Same way the religion starts from the small seed of thought. That seed of thought may be belief of god, explanation of death, or purpose of life.

It is also very difficult to ascertain when, where and by whom that seed of thought was sown in the soil of human mind. There are no standard parameters, to measure the age of any religion. For example, Buddhism was founded by Lord Buddha. He was the son of king Shudhodhan. And his name was Gautam. He was living luxurious life. But he left his kingdom and his house in search of real purpose of life. He wandered for six years. During that time he attended number of different schools and institutions. But he could not get satisfactory solution and answers, which can satisfy his quest for the purpose of life. Then he selected one secluded place and sat under the tree. He meditated for number of days. He was determined to get answers for his quest. After some days, there was enlightenment. He perceived real picture of life, its aim, and its purpose. After that he went to near by village. There he met four villagers. He preached them. They were his first students and followers of new cult.

Gradually more and more people joined that new cult. Yet that cult was not recognized as separate religion. After few years, king Ashok joined that cult. He made positive efforts to propagate that philosophy in various parts of the country and even in other countries. Gradually that new philosophy was named as Buddha Dharma. Specific rules and commands for the followers and the students were formed long after the enlightenment of Lord Buddha.

Now in this case which point should be considered as starting of the religion? It can be the day lord Buddha got enlightenment. Or it can be the day when rules and commands were formulated or the day when king Ashok recognized it as separate religion.

The structure of religion is built on the basic philosophy of God, and philosophy regarding the purpose of life. If the belief regarding existence of the God is considered as the starting point of any religion, then most of the religions might have started before thousands of years.

Idea of the God and his existence might have generated in various primitive tribes long before the birth of any known and established religion. The god was considered as the creator

and protector of the universe by most of the primitive tribes.

It is also very much surprising, that, in pre-historic period, when there was no means of communications and when people were unaware of the geographical situations of other communities, the same idea of existence of the God, and his super power, was generated in the minds of different communities, living in various sections of the world.

Belief of God existed in the red Indians of America. Idea of God was also existed in the African tribes. The same idea existed in Indian tribes, in china or in Russia. Of course the idea of God was existed in different tribes, but their beliefs regarding form and functions of God, was not the same.

It shows that the mankind, the Homo-sapiens, even though they were not civilized, was having some cloudy picture of God in their primitive mind.

It is presumed that the man in the stone-age was very much like animal. His brain was primitive, having limited capacity of thinking logically. During that period, his main aim of life was to survive and reproduction. He had to protect himself from the danger of wild

animals, as well as natural calamities. For fighting wild animals, he started living in the group. He also invented some primitive weapons for protecting him and his family's life from the wild animals. He started living in the caves to protect his life.

At some point of time he realized that he was completely helpless against natural calamities. Natural calamities like heavy floods, earthquakes, tornados, severe cold and wild fires in the jungles were very common in those days. He also observed that too many lives were lost due to natural calamities. He saw people, animals, and various birds, suddenly losing their lives. He could not understand the phenomena of natural calamities. He could not understand the phenomena of death. He was completely helpless against the process of death.

That total helplessness and fear of death, might have given him the idea of super human power.

He saw every day sun rising. He saw regular change of climates. He saw big mountains. He saw big rivers and ocean. He saw numerous stars. He was totally confused. His small mind could not explain all those natural phenomena. His mind was filled with numerous questions like,

Who is responsible for these natural calamities?

Who is responsible for such huge creations?

Who is responsible for life and death?

He could not discover any rational and logical explanations for his queries.

The only answer his small brain can perceive was the existence of some unknown super human power. And that super human power was perceived as GOD.

As per the contents recorded in the history, Hindu and Greek cultures were the oldest. It is presumed that Aryans from north part of Asia migrated to India during pre-historic period. Those Aryans were worshipping all the natural forces as their Gods. Lord Varuna was the God of water; Lord Agni was the God of fire. Lord Indra was the god of rain and Lord Vayu was the God of air. Lord Yama was worshiped as God of death. Sun and sea were also worshiped as God; big rivers were worshiped as Goddesses.

If we examine old Greek mythology, it will be revealed that they were also worshipping various faculties of nature as God and Goddesses. Aphrodite was the Goddesses of love, beauty, desire and pleasure. Apollo was the God of light, and Ares was the God of war.

Demeter was the Goddesses of agriculture and Hephaestus was the God of fire. Poseidon was the God of sea, rivers, and floods.

Worshiping the nature and various faculties of nature as God had continued for pretty long period. In the holy books of Aryans, there are detailed descriptions of various ceremonial methods for worshiping different Gods, like Indra, Agni, Vayu, Varun Sun, etc.

But with the passage of time, it occurred to the people that, the various faculties of nature like water, fire, air, sun, sea, earth etc being very small part of whole universe, they can not be considered as the creator of the universe. One can not say that the hand being small part of human body; can be considered as the creator of same body. With the effect the theory of natural forces being the God, and the creator, was dropped.

Then it was presumed that the creator of the universe should be much more powerful than powerful natural forces.

The idea of 'presence of super human power, being creator and protector of the world,' started growing in the minds of the human being, living in the different parts of the world.

It is surprising that in the absence of any communications between various communities, same idea of 'God being creator and protector of universe' started growing in the minds of people. Of course the perception of the image of God, was not the same every where. Perception of God was different with different communities with different cultures. The perceived image of the God was not the same with Arabs living in the desert and Africans living in the wild jungles. It was not same with the red-Indians of America and Chinese peasants of China.

It may be possible that idea of existence of God might have started much earlier than the evolution of standard religions.

The probable age of any well established religion on the earth, is not more than 2000 – 3000 years. The known oldest religion might have started some 1500 to 2000 B.C. As such there is no authentic record available, showing exact year of starting of any religion. One can draw the conclusion from the mythological stories available in religious books.

It is believed that Judaism was started by Moses. Moses received some messages from the angels, and that were known as Ten Commandments. Jesus Christ was born before 2000 years. He preached for the

humanity and brotherhood. He was considered as son of God. Testaments written in the holy book of bible are considered as the conversation between Christ the son, and the God the father. Islam was founded by Prophet Mohamed. Payagamber is the person who delivers the message. Mohamed was considered as the messenger of Khuda, God. Buddha religion was started by Siddharth, who was prince of big kingdom. Later Siddharth had become famous as Buddha.

Sanatan Dharma [popularly known as Hindu] was not started by any single individual. Vedas are considered as the origin of Hindu religion, and it is believed that those were written by Lord Brahma, creator of the universe. As such structure of Sanatan Dharma was built by number of thinkers, and seers of pre-historic period.

It is also presumed that the God selected some divine soul, as a messenger. Then he conveyed his messages through that divine soul for the welfare of the man kind. And that message of God took the shape of religion.

The foundation of most of the world religion is their unique belief of God and his power to create and protect the world. The structure of the religious organization was constructed on that strong base. The development of

religious organization was very slow in the beginning. But once more and more people joined that organization, it gained its momentum. The constitution of the religion was framed keeping in view, the local culture, habit and the demand of the followers.

The constitution of any religion is composed of detailed rules, regulations and commands, for the society. The rules were supposed to bring uniformity in the ceremonial rituals and discipline in the community.

In most of the religion, at some point of time, there were differences of opinions in the disciples. Those differences were either regarding philosophical understanding or regarding existing rules. With the effect there were bifurcations in the path of same religion. The Christianity was bifurcated in to Catholic and Protestant. Islam was bifurcated in to Shia and Sunni. Buddha was bifurcated in to Mahayan and Hinayan. Same way Hindu Dharma was bifurcated in to Shivaliks and Vaishnavas. With the passage of time there were more branches and sub- branches in each religion.

Growth of the religion:

It is the universal rule that any object living or non living, has definite pattern of growth. The living beings are born, grow and die. Same way any object created by the nature or by man grows and with the passage of time, it degenerates. Same universal rule applies to the organizations and institutions. The institutions once created starts growing. It reaches to the highest peak, and then gradually starts degenerating. There are number of such examples in the history. Number of civilizations, in the different parts of the world, has reached to its zenith, and then started degenerating. The same rule may be applied to the institution of the religion.

Let us examine the history of major religion. Most of the religions were founded before 2000 to 2500 years. They were founded by either single founder, or by group of people. For example Islam was founded by prophet Mohmed. Judaism was founded by Moses. And Christianity was founded by Lord Jesus. Buddha religion was founded by Lord Buddha. Hinduism was not founded by single person, but it was founded by group of thinkers.
[Rishis]

It is observed that in the early phase of any religion, their growth rate was very slow. Mainly because people were skeptical towards the philosophy and rules of new religion. In the beginning the religion remains limited to the founder and group of few followers. It can only get momentum once leader of the community or ruler accepts the religion. Take the example of Buddha religion. In the beginning there were very few disciples following the new philosophy of Lord Buddha. After the death of Lord Buddha, after few years, the religion was accepted by King Ashok. After that the religion was accepted by thousands of people, it got momentum, and it was taken to the countries outside India.

Same way Christianity was not accepted by many people in the early years of its foundation. But once it was accepted by the rulers, it got momentum. In the case of Islam, most of the Muslim kings have played major role, in spreading the religion in south East Asia and Middle East.

Bifurcations of the religions:

Any organization, when it grows to maximum level, it starts breaking down. Some times it breaks because of its own weight, or some time it breaks with external forces. Most of the present religions are now having its major branches and sub- branches. The Christianity is divided in to catholic and protestant. The Islam is having two major groups, Shia and sunni. The Buddha religion has two major paths, i.e. Hinayan and Mahayan.

In the beginning, when the religious groups were small, and when the main founders of the religions, were living, there were no divisions. That is because, personality of the founders were so strong, that nobody dares to think about leaving the main groups. But when the religious institutions grown to their highest peak, when it gained prestige and power, it had become difficult to keep that organization intact. Some people within the group started differing with the main group. They started doubting either the central philosophy, or the rules laid down by the founder. In addition in some cases there was occult desire to gain organizational power. With the effect, there were divisions. Group of people under leadership of some strong follower; deflected from the main path, and

formed new group. Same process continues, resulting in more and more sub-groups.

Decline of the religion:

Degeneration is the universal rule. Any object or subject after achieving its optimal growth, starts degenerating. Same rule is also right for the institutions of the religion. As per the recent statistical surveys, it is observed that more and more people are becoming non-religious.

With the advent of the education and with advancement of the scientific knowledge, more and more people started doubting authority of the religion and religious leaders. Basic and central philosophy of any religion regarding God and his role as creator of this universe is doubted by number of rational thinkers.

Scientists have proved that “Big bang” was the real cause for the creation of this universe. They formulated the theory, which has given clear and rational idea of evolution of this universe. Scientists have also come out with the fact that there is nothing like hell or heaven in this universe, so there is no question of God punishing or rewarding the people for their bad or good actions during life time.

With the growth of the civilization and with the formation of civil and criminal codes, people were feeling more secured under government rules. With the effect the importance of the religious rules and commands, is reduced. Again it is observed in some instances that religious leaders are misusing their power for the selfish motives. Cumulative effect of this entire factor has resulted in the decline of the faith in the religion.

Recent survey conducted by some of the agency has shown that more and more people have become non-religious. The organization did the survey in different countries. They did the survey in 2005 and in 2013. When result of both the surveys was compared, it was revealed that percentage of non-religious people were more in 2013, compared to 2005. It was also revealed that higher percentages of non-religious people were detected in the developed and rich countries, compared to under developed and poor countries. It proves that with the advancement of the education, scientific knowledge, security and comfort of the life, the trust of the people in the authority and ability of the religion, has reduced.

Man is basically selfish animal. His main demand in life is security and happiness. In the ancient period, people believed that only God can give security and happiness. With the

effect people were worshiping the God. Now it is observed that knowledge, money and power can bring security and happiness in the life. With the effect the faith of the people has deviated from god to the material gain.

Concept and various perceptions of God:

Idea of God was generated in the mind of the human being in pre-historic period. As there was no effective communication existed during that ancient period, different groups of people perceive the God with diverse images.

Numerous small groups were living in diverse environmental conditions. Environment and surroundings definitely affects the thought process of the individual. With the result their perception and belief of the God differ widely.

Some community perceives super human power in their dead ancestors. They started worshiping their ancestors. In some tribal communities, who were living in the jungles, and who were very close to the wild animals, especially snakes, started worshiping snake as their God. In India even to-day snake is worshiped in some communities. Some people started worshiping trees. Tulsi and Pipal trees are considered holy in some groups of people. Cow was also considered as having some divine power, and worshiped as holy creature.

In most of the communities the man made the image of God in the reflection of his own image. So the God was depicted as super power having his body like that of man.

Monotheism and polytheism:

There are many religions on earth, and each having their specific theories regarding existence and functions of God.

Monotheism is the belief that there is only one God. Polytheism is the belief that there is more than one God. At the same time atheism is the belief, that there is no existence of God. Most of the major religions believe that there is only one God who has created this earth.

Eastern religions like Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, are monotheistic. They believe in existence of only one God. Zoroastrianism too believes in the existence of one God. Buddha and Jainism have their own theory regarding God. Lord Buddha had never clarified regarding existence of God.

Moses was the founder of Judaism. As per the story, he received commandments from the super power. When people asked him the name of his God, he said that there was no name of the God. He said that during the talk with super power, whenever he asked the name of that God, he was replied that my name is 'I am who I am'. So there was no specific name.

In Christianity there is belief of three holy powers, God the father, Jesus the son of God, and Holy Spirit. As per the belief in Islam, there is only one God, and he is popularly known as Allah or Khuda. Followers of Islam do not believe in idol worshiping. In Buddha religion there is no clear concept of God. Lord Buddha had never described the character and image of God to his followers.

It is believed that philosophy of Hinduism, preaches for polytheism, existence of more than one God. As such there are various schools of thoughts in Hinduism. Each school had developed their own philosophy regarding the subject of God.

Some of the followers believe in existence of three gods, i.e. Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva. Brahma is supposed to be in charge of the creation, Vishnu is supposed to be in charge of maintenance, and Shiva is supposed to be in charge of Death. Some people believe in existence of 330 million Gods. As such these are the beliefs propagated by those who have not understood the central philosophy of Hinduism. The central and core philosophy regarding God, is discussed in detail in the books like Vedas, Upanishada, and Gita. In all these books there is mention of only one supreme power who is the creator and protector of all the living beings. He is known

as Paramatma. Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva are the different images of same Paramatma. The Paramatma when engages himself as creator, he is known as Brahma . The same supreme power when engages himself in the function of maintenance, he is called Vishnu. And Parmatma when engages himself in dissolution, he is known as Shiva.

There are numerous mythological stories in the Hinduism, depicting number of other gods. But most of these stories are not relevant with the central philosophy. Those stories are the creation of the followers and story- tellers. Those stories are meant for ordinary peasants and uneducated villagers. Those stories are meant for spreading the values of religious commands and moral conduct.

It is also believed that the supreme authority is unborn, immortal, and imperceptible by the ordinary human being. Being imperceptible, it is not possible to describe his shape, color and image. He is the vital power. One can say that he is ocean of vital power. Life is nothing but live force. It is believed that Paramatma has created each living being from his own vital energy. With the result, each living being is carrying very small fraction of the vital energy awarded to him by Paramatma. In that sense Paramatma lives in the heart of all the creatures on this earth. So theoretically it can

be presumed that each living being is the image of God. He is one and lives in the hearts of all the living beings.

Atheism:

Atheism is the belief that does not believe in the existence of the god. There are groups of people in each community and in each country, who vehemently deny the existence of the god.

These people are mostly scientists, rationalists, or analysts. Even communists do not believe in the existence of the god. Carl Marx had said in his book, that god is the creation of few people, and religion is the slow poison.

Atheists believe that there are scientific theories for the creation of this universe, galaxies, stars and planets. Science has also created the theory of evolution of man kind. There are universal natural rules, which are responsible for the maintenance of this whole universe. They also believe that all the living and non-living on this earth, has to follow those rules. This earth and universe is the complicated combinations of various elements, molecules and atoms. The molecules and atoms behave as per their inbuilt characters.

So to believe that this whole universe is the creation of one single authority is not palatable. As such percentage of atheist existed in the society, is comparatively small. Major section of the population believes in the existence of God. Of course their image and perception of God may differ widely from each other.

Atheist and Agnostics:

Atheist means those who do not believe in God. And Agnostic means those who believe that there is no proof for the existence of God, but at the same time it is very difficult to deny firmly the existence of the God. There are sizable numbers of people in each community, who doubt the existence of the God. Being rationalist, their perceptions and concepts are based upon logical reasoning and scientific proof.

Parameters to prove the existence of God:

As per the theory of logic, any concept for the existence of the subject, object or event, is based on four factors. i.e. personal direct perception, perception of the other authentic person, matter from authentic literature, or from logical reasoning.

If I myself have seen the sun rising every day in the morning, then it means that sun exists. I do not require any further proof for that. This is the example of direct perception. I have not seen the Tajmahal, but number of my friends has seen it, and I have no doubt regarding authenticity of their statements, with the result I have to believe that Tajmahal exists. I have not seen Mugal King Akbar, none of my friends have seen the king, but as per the writings in history, he was there and he ruled India in past. History being authentic literature, I have to believe it. Same way nobody has seen that earth and other planets, are moving around the sun with uniform speed. But logically it is proved that regular change of seasons, and number of other regular events is due to the movements of the earth and other planets. So one has to believe that phenomena.

Now let us examine the query of God's existence in the light of above parameters.

There are no authentic evidences available in the history, of anybody having seen the God. Few personals have claimed about direct perception of the God. But those claims were not authenticated in the light of scientific and logical reasoning. It may happen that those who claimed regarding perceiving the God, might have perceived their own mental

projection. It is the opinion of the psychologist, that when the person concentrates on some specific subject or object for the long time, the image of that subject or object, get fixed in his sub-conscious mind. With the result, even in the absence of that subject or object, he perceives that.

Those who claim to have seen the God, describe the image of the God, similar to the description given in their religious books, or description given in the mythological stories.

In medical terminology such phenomena is known as hallucination. If Hindu claims to have seen the God, his description of the image of the god might be the same as it is described in Hindu religious books. Some people claim to have seen some divine light, or claim to have heard some divine voice, or some time some divine message. It is very difficult to ascertain definitely, that whatever their claim of God's perception, was real, or hallucination.

All the religious books, claim positively regarding existence of the God. Followers of those religions have firm faith in that religious literature. But atheists doubt the authenticity of those writings.

As such there is no full-proof scientific method or procedure available, which can either prove or disprove the existence of the God.

When subject, object or occurrence can not be proved by direct or indirect perception, one can prove it by theory, hypothesis or by logical reasoning. Number of things in this universe is imperceptible, yet their existence is proved by logical reasoning.

This whole universe is full of galaxies, stars, suns and planets. All these objects have definite image, dimensions and functions. Their movements are uniform and accurate. Their functions are also co-related and inter-connected. Earth is moving on its own axis with uniform and definite speed, since billions of years. The same earth moves around the sun with definite speed, causing different seasons at regular intervals. Same way moon is moving around the earth with regular speed. It seems the movements and functions of all these celestial objects are governed by some definite rules.

Same way there is births, growths, life and death of all the living beings. In the living body living cell has definite functions, definite growth and definite way of forming new cells. When one small seed of banyan tree is kept under the soil, it will grow in to big banyan

tree. And in the same soil, when seed of mango tree is kept, it will grow in to mango tree. As such raw material for the production of tree is same, even though from one seed there will be banyan tree and from other seed there will be mango tree.

Constituents of any living cell are mainly carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen. In spite of that some cells function as muscle fibers, some cells behave as hard bone, and some cells act as highly sensitive nerve fiber. No scientific research can understand this highly complex method of birth and growth. Highly scientific research institution can not produce single cell in the laboratory. Living cell can be produced from living cell only but not from the non-living raw materials. Same carbon atom exists in the coal as well as in the living cell. But the carbon atom in the coal can not produce living cell while carbon atom in the cell can produce one new cell.

Observing all these complex and mystique phenomena in the universe, one has to believe that there exists some super human power, which is responsible for creation, development, and destruction of subjects and objects in this universe, and that super human power is known as the God.

Difference between non-religious and atheist:

Atheist is the person who does not believe in the existence of the God. When he does not believe in the existence of the God, which is the central theme of each religion, he does not accept the importance and authority of the religion. Non- religious person basically rejects religious commands and rules. He rejects authority of the religion. At the same time he may believe in the God.

Now a days people from different corners of the world, have started doubting the norms of any specific religion. They are known as spirituals. Spirituals have not totally rejected the existence of the god. But their image of the God is quite different from the traditional belief of the god, preached by the religion. For the spirituals, there exists some super power, unknown and imperceptible by the human senses. That super power, whether we named him as god or not, is responsible for the creation, progress and maintenance of balance in this world. Those spirituals do not believe that only worshiping the God, can solve all the problems, and can bring happiness to the human kind. For them self material development, spiritual development, as well as humanity is most important. Spirituals may

adopt and accept, good points from each religion, and may create their own way of life.

Agnostic and non-religious:

There are group of people in the world, who are agnostics and non-religious. Such people do not believe in any specific religion.

Agnostic means not knowing. So they are neither sure regarding the existence of the god, nor sure regarding non-existence of the God. With the result they prefer to remain silent when they are specifically asked for the matter related to the god. One can say that Lord Buddha was agnostic. During his life tenure, several times he was asked by his followers and other curious people regarding the existence and the functions of the God, but he never replied those questions. His total preaching was pertaining to welfare of the people.

Agnostics do not believe that this whole universe is created by the God, but they do believe that there is some super power unknown to the human senses which is responsible for creation of all living and non-living on this earth. Such people do not believe in the preaching or commands of any religious books or religious leaders. They do not believe in Ishwar, Allah, or God. But they do believe

that some occult power is responsible for keeping balance in this universe. They do not believe in any religious rituals, and they do not believe in visiting temple, church or mosque. They do not believe in the theory of re-birth. So for them existing life is only life, with the result they believe in living happy and peaceful life.

Being non-religious does not mean non-humane. Such people do believe in positive ethics of the life. They love good human characters like love, non-violence, compassion, integrity, honesty, mutual trust and truthfulness. They love humanity and humanitarian work. They love to work for poor and needy people. As such they follow all the rules of the various religions, related to human welfare. Being non-religious, they do not like to be follower of any specific religion. They refuse to enter in to the citadel of any religion. They reject becoming the member of any religious group.

As such they formulate their own rules and commands for living happy, peaceful and humane life.

Philosophy of death:

For the ancient man the death was highly mysterious phenomena. He hardly could understand that the person who was talking, walking, running, hunting, eating and doing various activities, at the point of time, suddenly becomes motionless like peace of wood. The body stops doing any action, stops even responding to the various stimuli, like, touch, smell, taste, pain and danger. The body which was once afraid of the fire or wild animals, and was trying to protect the self, now does not respond to any danger to the life. The ancient man could not understand that mysterious phenomena. Death was the great mystery for the ancient man, [even to-day it is the mystery].

Medical science can describe the pathology of the various organs; can explain the causes for various organs failing to perform their usual duties.

But medical science could not explain the phenomena of death.

Medical science can explain the phenomena of stoppage of heart, or respiratory failure, but the same science can not explain, actually what happens at the time of death. It can not

explain how the vital force which was responsible for keeping all the vital organs alive and active, which was responsible for internal balance and coordination, suddenly disappears from the body, keeping body motionless and defenseless.

Take the example of the vehicle. In the vehicle there are different parts and systems. The coordinated actions of all the parts of the vehicle are responsible for the smooth running of the vehicle.

Same way the human body is made up of various organs and the systems. Those parts and the systems in the vehicle are responsible for efficient movement of the vehicle. Same way all the organs and various systems in the human body are responsible for efficient functioning of the human body. The vehicle can not move by itself. It requires driver to run the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle is the controller and decision maker for the vehicle. Suppose the driver, for some unknown reasons leaves the vehicle. Now in spite of having efficient parts and the systems, the vehicle can not move by itself.

Same way when the driver of the human body leaves the human body, the body stops functioning. And that is the death. That driver is known as Atman, as per Hindu philosophy.

Before the event of death the human body was well protected from enemy intruders. There are thousands of bacteria in the environment. They are all the time trying to attack the living body. But because of inbuilt defense mechanism, they can not invade and harm the body. But after death that defense mechanism is lost, and they invade the body. With the result, decomposition of the human body starts immediately after death.

It is like person living in the house. The house is protected by the person living there. The person does not allow any outsider to enter in the house and damage it. But when the house is very old and not habitable, the person leaves the house. Now the house is barren and without protection. Now there is nobody to take care and protect the house. So intruders enter the house, and start demolishing it.

It means that there is some active element in the human body, which is responsible for its growth, its activities, and its protection. That, some one is known as 'I'. It is also known as 'I-consciousness'. This 'I' is the owner of the physical body. He utilizes the body as his vehicle, his instrument and his home. The body is utilized by the 'I' for achieving various goals and objectives of life. Those objectives can be financial, i.e. to earn money, social i.e.

to earn social status, political i.e. to earn power, or it can be spiritual i.e. to get liberation. This 'I' is the controller, supervisor, manager, decision maker, and protector of the physical body.

This 'I' is very mysterious. Nobody knows in which part of the body, it lives. Nobody knows from where it has come, nobody knows when it has entered in the physical body. But it is certain that he lives in the body for whole life time. And at one point of time, he suddenly leaves the physical body. Owner of the physical body leaves his residence. The resident leaves the body and it becomes inhospitable and unprotected. Nobody knows why he enters the body, and nobody knows why suddenly he leaves the body. All these questions are eternal. Even to-day nobody can satisfactorily answer all these questions.

Different religions have generated different theories regarding purpose of life and process of death. There is distinctive difference for the basic theory of life and death, between western and eastern religions. The western religions, like Judaism, Christianity with all its branches, and Islam with all its branches, do not consider that physical body and 'I-consciousness' are two separate and independent entities. As per their theory, the feeling of 'I' is the feeling related with physical

body. As per the medical science the feeling of 'I' is the product of the brain. Feeling of 'I' remains through out the life, and it is lost after death. As per the western religions the death is total annihilation of life.

As per the Philosophy of the eastern religions, like Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism and Shikhism, 'physical body and 'I-consciousness' are not the same. They both are separate and independent entities. The physical body is alterable, modifiable and mortal, while the 'I-consciousness' is eternal, unalterable and immortal. The physical body passes through the stages of birth, growth and death, while the 'I-consciousness' the spirit, which is popularly known as Atman, remains same. There is no change or modifications in the Atman. It is neither growing, nor getting old. It is unalterable. It is eternal.

There is no change in the feeling of 'I-consciousness'. The feeling of 'I' remains same during all the stages of physical body, i.e. childhood, teenage, adulthood and in old age. Same 'I-consciousness' prevails during sleep, or during dreams.

Atman is the manager and witness of all the activities of the physical body. The physical body passes through the stages of birth, growth and death. But the Atman has no

birth, no growth or no death. After death the physical body get decomposed and its basic elements like hydrogen, carbon, oxygen and nitrogen disintegrates, and finally amalgamate with basic elements of the earth. So there is total dissolution of physical body. But there is no death for the Atman.

Death means separation of Atman from the physical body. After leaving the old physical body, Atman seeks new physical body [embryo], and starts new life. This is called rebirth. It is like person changing his old clothes and gets new clothes, or it is like the owner of the house leaves his old dissipated and degenerated house and starts living in the new house. The theory of rebirth is not accepted by the western religions, but followers of eastern religions, firmly believe in the theory of rebirth.

As per the theory of eastern religions, the Atman, i.e. 'I-consciousness' along with vital force, is eternal and immortal. It passes through numerous cycles of birth- growth- death. When it reaches the highest peak of spiritual evolution, it is liberated from the bondage of cycles of birth and death. Finally it unites and merges with super human power.

Death is very mysterious event of the life. Neither religion nor science can satisfactorily describe, analyze or theorize the event of death. As per the opinion of the medical science, when vital organs stop functioning, the state of the body is known as death. It is the total annihilation of the life. The dead can never revive his life.

The thinkers and researchers have failed to understand why the vital organs suddenly stop functioning.

Different organs of the body have specific functions to perform. It is believed that presence of vital force in each cell and organs of the body is responsible for the potential efficiency of the specific organ. It is like electrical current in the electrical equipments. If the current is weak, the equipment will not function at its fullest potential. With the advancement of the age, the amount and strength of the vital force flowing in all the organs, is reduced.

With the effect various organs can not function at their ultimate potential. At the time of death, the vital force leaves the body. It is like switching off the main electrical supply to the complicated electrical equipment, with the result the equipment stops functioning.

In human body there are several organs performing various functions. For example, the heart is responsible for supplying blood to the various parts of the body. Kidneys are responsible for the filtration of the blood, and lungs are responsible for providing enough supply of oxygen. The functions of the different organs are inter-dependent so utmost coordination and synchronization is required among various organs for the smooth running of life.

Human body is very complicated and complex entity. It is like big manufacturing unit. In the manufacturing unit there are different machines. Each machine has some specific task to perform, which is small fraction of the main task of the unit. When all the machines functions efficiently, and perform their task, there is the production of end product of the unit. Utmost coordination and decision making is required for the running of the unit. The manager is responsible for coordination of the various departments of the unit. In the absence of the manager the unit will stop functioning, because there will be no coordination, and synchronization of the various departments.

Same way in the human body there is one manager, who is responsible for coordination and synchronization of the functions of

various organs. That manager is 'I', popularly known as soul or Atman. For some unknown reason, he leaves the body, switching off the main supply of the vital force. With the result all the organs suddenly stops functioning. And that is the death. It is not certain, whether the soul leaves the body, because organs stops functioning or organs stop functioning because the soul leaves the body.

After Death rituals:

Different religions have different beliefs for the event of death. With the result their after death ritual differ.

In eastern religions, the dead body is disposed off by cremation. In western religions it is disposed off by burial in the ground.

When death occurs in the family, there is always feeling of great loss in the family. The family members and friends know that the person whom they loved, and who was dearer and nearer to them, is now not present.

Specific personality who had lived in that physical body has left. The dead body is of no use to the family members. So nobody thinks to preserve the physical body. On the contrary, there is fear of decomposition, and spreading of the infection. So the dead body must be disposed off as soon as possible. With the death of the person, all the emotional connections with that person are severed off.

Now he is not the father or husband or brother or friend. The dead body is the lifeless object, which should be disposed off as soon as possible.

It is the custom in almost all the religions, to read religious and philosophical sentences from the holy books, near dyeing person, so that he can die peacefully. After death the body is removed from the bed, and fresh bath is given to the body to make it clean. After that the dead body is kept in the main room of the house. This is the time when the family members can see their loved ones for the last time. Then religious priest will be invited. The priest will perform certain religious rituals, as specified in their religion. These rituals are for peaceful onward journey of the soul.

Once those rituals are over, the dead body is taken either to the cremation ground, or grave yard, or to the silent tower.

In Hindus, Jains, Shikhs and Buddha, the dead body is cremated. In Islam and in Christians, it is buried in the grave yard. And in Parsis the dead body is taken to the silent tower. In silent tower the dead body is kept in open. So that vultures and other birds can eat the flesh of the dead.

In most of the religions, there are specific rituals prescribed to be performed after death of the person. Those rituals may last for few days after death. All these rituals are meant for providing peace to the departing soul.

Ultimate Goal of life:

It is the popular belief, especially among the thinkers, that each action must have some Goal or motive. So the human life must have ultimate Goal. For the rational thinkers the life is aimless travel from the starting point of birth to the end point of death.

Most of the religions have tried to attach ultimate goal with the human life. Western religions like Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, do not believe in re-birth. As per their theology there is only one life. The God has given only one chance to the man to be born and enjoy the life on this earth. The death is the annihilation of the life.

It is believed that the spirit of the dead sleeps in the grave till the Day of Judgment. On the Day of Judgment, the God will judge the actions of the man. There will be detail analysis of actions performed by the man during his entire life. Those who have performed good work, those who have worshiped the God, those who have helped the poor and needy, those who have lived the life for others, will get the blessings of the God, and they will be sent to the heaven to enjoy their life. At the same time those who have not worshiped the God, those who have not helped

the poor and needy, those who have harassed others for their selfish motives, will be given punishment by the God, and such people will be sent to hell to suffer for rest of their life.

There are differences of opinions among various religions and religious groups regarding the Day of Judgment. Some believe that it can be any time as per the wish and decision of the God. Some believe that the day of judgment will be the day when the whole world will perish. The time will come when due to some unforeseen natural disaster all the living beings on this earth will die. It is believed that the time will come when there will be total annihilation of the world. There will be total and complete end of every thing on this world. There will be total demolition of all the living and nonliving objects of this world. After total demolition, the God will give his final judgment.

The theology of the eastern religions like, Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, is different. They believe in the theory of rebirth. As per their belief, the spirit i.e. Atman, and the physical body are two different entities. Popularly known as death, is the death of physical body, not that of Atman. Atman is immortal and eternal. At the time of death, it leaves the old body, and seeks new physical body for his next life. That way it passes

through several cycles of birth and death. It is believed that the nature of next birth of the Atman will depend on the nature of actions and behavior in the previous birth. Those who have lived pious life, worshiped the God, and performed humanitarian work, will be rewarded by better rebirth. Pious and holy Atman will get birth in the family, who are also pious and living better life.

Those who have not obeyed the rules of the religion, who have not worshiped the God, who have lived selfish life and not helped poor and needy, will be punished by the God, by giving him next birth in the awful family or in the lower species like animals, birds or insects. As a result in his next birth he will be having lots of hurdles and will have unhappy life.

In short as per the belief of the eastern religions, the reward or punishment will be awarded to the Atman, by the God as per his actions, by giving him birth at the place with favorable environment or at the place with difficult environment. As per the theory actions and reactions are equal. The Atman will get difficult rebirth as a result of negative actions and easy rebirth as result of positive actions.

This theory is known as ‘theory of actions’.

The spirit of the man will pass through several cycles of births and deaths. Every time either he will be rewarded or punished by the God, considering his quality of actions.

It is also believed that the Atman learns more and gets more experience with each new birth. With the effect Atman rises in the level of evolution with each new birth. When the atman reaches to the highest level of spiritual evolution, when Atman becomes free from the worldly and material desires, and attachments, when Atman reaches the highest level of spirituality, the atman will be liberation from the bondage of birth and death. That is the final stage for the Atman. Atman will be free from the bondage of birth and death. This is known as Moksha. i.e. final and ultimate stage of Atman. Theory of rebirth is contentious. Whether right or wrong, it gives hope for survival and removes the fear of total annihilation from the mind of the person.

Eschatology:

It is the branch of theology which is concern with the final events. Each of the present religions have predicted the final end of the world. Even science has its own theory for the end of the world. It is the indubitable rule that every thing on this world are in the process of change. There is always the chain of birth, growth and death. Nothing on this earth is permanent. Living or non-living has to reach to the final destination of annihilation. The same rule applies to the world. It is predicted in each religion that the time will come when there will be great devastation, with the result there will be total annihilation of entire world. All the living being on this earth will die. Every thing on this earth will disintegrate.

As per the opinion of the of the Islam, as it is mention in the Quaran , there will be end of the world, but the exact time of the end is not known. Only Allah knows it. They believe that

- 1] That end-time is only known to Allah.
- 2] Prophet Mohammad can not change it.
- 3] Nothing will survive except the God.
- 4] After total destruction the God will resurrect all.
- 5] Those who have selected false deity, will suffer.

There will be numerous minor and major signs to suggest that the end-time of the world is approaching.

As per the Jewish belief, the end will come, it will be the time of terrible tribulation. The end can be man made or can be natural disaster. As per the Christian theology, there will be end of the world. Number of priest had forwarded their theories, regarding the end of world. But none of their predictions have been realized. As per Christian theology, after total destruction, there will be resurrection of Jesus Christ. All the dead will be resurrected by the God, and will be sent to either heaven or hell as per the nature of actions they performed, during their life on the earth.

As per the Hinduism, the total period of the life of the world, is divided in to four divisions.

- 1] Satya yuga , will last for 1728 million years.
- 2] Dwapar yuga will lasts for 1296 million rears.
- 3] Treta yuga will lasts for 864000 years
- 4] Kaliyuga wll lasts for 432000 years.

In Satya yuga people will be honest, kind and religious. In Treta and Dwapar yuga, the human thinking and behavior will start deteriorating. In Kaliyuga, the man will become totally selfish. He will not obey the God and god's rules. He will kill his fellow man for the gratification of his selfish motives.

When the bad quality of the man will reach to its peak, there will be disaster. It can be natural disaster like heavy flood or earth quake, or it can be man made wars. The whole human race along with their properties will be destroyed. And that will be the end of Kali yuga. After that the God will again take birth on the earth, as divine Avatar. And he will create new world of good, kind and religious people. So there will be again starting of Satya Yuga.

Worshipping the God:

God's worship is the vital part of all the religions. Worshipping specific God is mandatory for all the followers of that religion. Worship is the act of showing ardent love and devotion to the God. Worship of the God can be by prayer or by standard rituals prescribed by the religions. Worship and prayer consists of praising the God's power. Worship is also for getting his favor and blessings. Most of the time, the praise represents the power of the God and his omni-potent, omnipresent and omniscient characters. It is believed that worshipping the God, will please him, and in reward the God will give health, wealth and happiness. People do pray the God for better health, for prosperous wealth and absolute power. In Hinduism, people do worship the God for desirable re-birth.

As such the central idea of the worship is to please the God. The God exists as super power. But the man has perceived him in his own image. The man has perceived him as super human being with absolute power and strength. So it is presumed that like ordinary

human being the God will be pleased by his praise. And with the result he will fulfill the wishes of the worshiper.

It is well known fact that for pleasing some one, the person has to praise his image, his characters, his virtues and his status in the society. Such action enhances the ego of the person praised. So in the reward he will grant you some valuable presents or will help you in your difficulties. Same analogy is applied to the God. And people worship him to please him with the expectations of fulfilling personal demands.

In ancient period, the Aryans were worshipping different Gods, for fulfillment of their demands. Indra was considered as the God of rain, so he was worshiped with the expectation of getting good rain. Same way the God of fire was worshiped, to save the self from the hazards of the fire.

Pivotal Idea of worship:

As such it is not rational to believe that like common man, the God will be pleased by his praise and by receiving valuable gifts. As he being super power and magnanimous in nature, He is totally egoless. So it is wrong to believe that the worship will please him and with the result he will fulfill the demands

made by the worshiper. As such the act of worship is for strengthening self confidence. It is meant for removal of self ego. With the worship, the worshiper surrenders himself totally to the super power. The real worshiper preys that

‘Oh God, I am very small. My strength and my powers are negligible when those are compared with your power and strength. So give me confidence to fight with the problems and hurdles in my life. Give me perfect knowledge to know and understand your characters and power.’

The person, who has surrendered totally to the power of God, will be free from all the anxieties of life. He will be confident that the God will help him in all his troubles and difficulties in the life.

He will be convinced that the God will be always with him, and the god will guide him to take right decisions at right time.

The methods of worship are different in different religions. One can worship the God, everyday sitting in his own house. Or one can worship him, by going to the temple. The temple is the place for worshipping the God.

Temple:

Temple is an integral part of any religion.

Temple is the place of worship for the followers of the religion. It is believed by all the religions that the God is almighty and king of kings, so it is the prime duty of each human being to worship him. Those who worship the God will be rewarded with happiness, not only in this life but in the life after death. At the same time who will not worship him, will be punished by him. As such the temple is the place for the worship of God. In Christianity it is known as church, Jews called it as synagogue, in Islam it is known as Mosque, and Hindu called it as Mandir.

It is the central place where the followers of the religion, meet on some specific day and make mass prayer. For Christian Sunday is the day for mass prayer, and for Muslims Friday is the day for mass prayer. On Sunday Christians visit the church in the morning and perform mass prayer. After the prayer there will be some sermons by the priest.

The followers of Islam, meet on every Friday, and perform certain ritual which is known as Namaz. In Hinduism, there is no specific day fixed for going to the temple. Hindu can go to the temple on any day and perform the prayer.

Temples are having specific designs, specific to the religion. In the church there is big hall where the Christians will sit and perform their prayer. On the front side of the hall, there is the statue of Jesus Christ with the cross. In some church there is also the statue of mother Marry. Side walls of the hall, are having either statues or pictures of various religious personalities.

In the mosque there is no picture or idol of Allah. The mosque is big and comfortable to accommodate the followers, who can perform their Namaz.

Hindu temples are quite different. Most of the Hindu temples are having standard architecture. In most of the temples, there are two divisions. The main and inner part of the temple is reserved for the Idol. The outer and bigger part of the temple is for the devotees. The person, who looks after the temple, and performs specific rituals for the idol, is known as Pujari. The idol of specific God is worshiped by the followers. It is believed that because of some specific rituals prescribed in the holy books, the spirit of the God resides in that idol. So idol is worshiped as the image of the God.

Religious literature:

There is abundant religious literature available for each religion on this earth. In the first phase of the religion, the literature was limited to the basics and central philosophy of the religion. In the ancient period when there was limited data, and inadequate means for the writing and communication, the literature was also limited to the few essential points of the religion. In most of the cases, that literature is related to the philosophy, thoughts and norms, preached by the founder of the religion. Most of the time, the matter preached by the founder, was considered as revelation by God.

The commandments, preached by Moses, were considered as the messages he received directly from the God. It is also believed that Prophet Mohamed, received messages from Allah, at various time, during his whole life time. Then those messages were conveyed to the followers. The compilation of all those messages, were done by the followers. The volume of those messages and revelation by Allah, is included in the book known as Quran. In Hinduism, it is believed that Lord Brahma, himself wrote the religious book, known as Vedas. Lord Buddha, gave number of lectures, during his life time. All those

messages and gist of matter he told was compiled by group of scholars, after some 100 years, and was published for the benefit of the followers.

The religious literature is very gigantic. Among various books, published by the religion, each religion has its own main text for that religion. That text is considered holy, by the followers. It is believed that those holy books contain direct revelation by the God, regarding central philosophy and rules for living divine life on this earth.

It is also believed that as it contains direct messages and commands from the God himself, no human being has any right to make any change in it.

In addition to the main text, there is enormous supplementary literature published by each religion, related to various faculties of that religion. On analysis of various literature published by the religious leaders and followers, it is revealed that usually it contains,

- 1] Detailed explanation of the central philosophy of that religion.
- 2] Basic concept regarding existence and functions of the God.
- 3] Concept for living divine life.

4] Concept and philosophy regarding death and life after death.

5] Concept regarding judgment of god, for the actions one performs during his life time.

Those who perform divine and good actions during life time are rewarded by the god, and those who perform inhuman and unholy actions during life, are punished by the God.

6] Describing full biography of the founder of the religion.

7] Enumeration and description of the miracles performed by the founder and various other followers during their life time.

8] Detail description of rituals.

The main purpose of the religious literature is to teach and preach the followers, regarding the central philosophy, various commands and messages, so that they can live divine and purposeful life.

Importance of religion:

What is the importance of religion in the human life?

More than 20 % of the people of world population either do not believe in the God, or they do not follow any religion. In spite of that they live normal life. At the same time it seems that those who follow some specific religion are not having any advantage in day to day life.

On detail analysis it is revealed that most of the people, who follow any religion, are not the follower of that religion, by their own selection. Generally the religion is followed by the way of tradition. If the person is born in the Christian family, he will follow Christianity, and the person born in the Muslim family, will follow Islam. So the adaptation of the religion is not by choice, but it is by chance.

Let us consider the same fact by another angle. Suppose if there is the rule that the person can not be designated as Hindu or Muslim or Christian because of his birth. But he can have chance to select his own religion at the time of maturity. With the result the person will have chance to select his own religion when he is mature enough to understand the religion. Again there will not

be much difference in the selection. Because the person born in one specific family will be conditioned, cultured and impressed by the characteristics of the family culture and religion. With the result most likely he will select the family religion.

Most of the people do not give more importance to the religion compared to other activities of life. For most of them it is the stamp or designation to live in the society. So as such by de facto sizable fraction of the world population is non-religious.

Does it mean that the religion has no place in the normal life?

Let us examine the evolution and history of the religion. In the prehistoric time, the human race was in primitive condition. They were not civilized. There were no rules. Killing other person for the sake of food or property was very common. Killing, stealing or abducting was not considered as either criminal or even abnormal. Strong persons were ruling over the weak persons. The human life was not different from that of animal life. It was difficult for the weak to survive or to have normal life. Those who were strong were enjoying the life at the cost of weak. Innumerable lives were lost because of internal fights and quarrels. There were no

rules to protect weaker section of the society. There was no discrimination between good and bad actions. There were numerous groups on the earth, who were all the time busy fighting among themselves, for food, for property, or for women.

At that time few thinkers from different corners of the world, thought regarding creating environment for happy and peaceful life for the strong as well as for the weak. Peace and happiness were mandatory for the prosperity of the human race. And that can be brought by stopping wars, assassination, theft, and other immoral acts. Preaching the people for stopping their inhuman acts was not effective. For bringing peace and happiness in the society, one requires strong authority to control the society. That strong authority should punish wrong doers, and should recompense good doers.

That authority should be strong, powerful, incomparable, unreachable and eternal. So idea of the God's existence was generated. Those thinkers by the virtue of their intuitions realized that fear of God only can bring peace and happiness in the life of the human race. That was the beginning of the religion.

Once people started believing in the existence of the God, the rules for the society were

formed on the name of the God. The people were given the understanding that the God, the almighty will punish those, who will not follow his commands, and at the same time the God will protect those who will follow his commands and rules. So the fear of the god, stopped those who were engaged in doing anti-social work. That was the starting point of the civilization.

So the religion directly or indirectly performed major role in converting primitive man into civilized man. With the result it brought prosperity to the human race.

Somebody may raise the question that religion was essential when the human race was in primitive stage, but what is the importance of the religion in present context of life, when there are prevailing rules and regulations by the government for the each citizen of the nation.

As such it is very difficult to control big population by enforcing the rules. To frame the rule is easy, but to implement the same is very difficult. It requires big infrastructure to enforce the rules. No government is so strong to provide such effective infrastructure. Again the government is also made up of the group of human being. They are not angels. They are having their own limitations and weaknesses.

With the result enforcement of the rules by only government is not possible.

For smooth running of the society and nation, one requires self discipline. Self discipline is required for the smooth and peaceful living. Fear of God, and trust in god's ability to punish the bad and to reward the good, induces self discipline in the people. No religion on the earth teaches and preaches for the inhuman and cruel action. No religion teaches for the killing the other person for self motive, no religion encourages theft and abduction of the weak. No religion encourages for the slavery.

Almost all the religions are teaching and preaching for the self induced rules for humanity, which ultimately leads to peace and happiness.

Religion teaches and preaches for non-violence, truthful living and helping poor and weak of the society. With the effect most of the followers of the religion stick to the commands, and live their life as per the guide lines prescribed by the religion. Ultimate effect is peace and tranquility in the society.

Apart from the fear of punishment by the God, the trust in God enhances self confidence. The person believes that god is the final authority,

and he will give final judgment either for the good or for the bad actions. It is also believed that the God, the almighty will help, in the time of hurdles and difficulties in life. With the help of God, one will have chance to overcome the difficulties, hurdles, sorrows of life. That trust in God, gives the man self confidence, and hope to live better life.

Miracles:

Basic and central philosophy regarding the existence of God, and his power and his functions, is the strong base of the religious structure. On this strong base, the religious empire is constructed. Various stories regarding the birth, life style and miracles performed by the founder of the religion and his close disciples, serve as beautification of the religious structure.

Most of the rational people do not believe in the miracles. At the same time most of the ordinary followers do believe in and are highly impressed by the stories of the miracles. The stories of the miracles are used for the promotion of the religion in the community. The stories of miracle can easily impress and attract ordinary people towards specific religion.

In some cases such stories of the miracles are used to teach high morals. It is also used to enhance trust of the people in the God. For example there is one story in the Hindu religion. In ancient period, there was one king, whose name was Hiranyakashyap. He was very strong and arrogant. He never believed in the presence of the God. In his kingdom, nobody was permitted to worship the god.

Those who caught worshipping the God, were severely punished. But his own son, Prahlad, was strong devotee of the lord Vishnu. The king was not happy with the attitude of his son. In the beginning, he tried to convince his son to give up his faith in Lord Vishnu. But Prahlad was adamant and not ready to forgo his faith in god. Then the king started torturing and punishing his son. But he miserably failed. Prahlad continued worshipping lord Vishnu. So the king asked his servants to construct the strong pillar of iron. Then the iron pillar was heated by the fire. When the pillar was red hot, the king asked his son to embrace the pillar. He told his son that 'this pillar is very hot, and it will burn your body. If your God exists, then he will save you from the severe burns.' The king thought the child will be afraid, and will not embrace the pillar. But Prahlad, who was innocent and who had utmost faith in his God, made his prayer, and fearlessly embraced the hot pillar. Every body thought that Prahlad will get severe burn, but to the surprise of all the people, there was no harm to the body of Prahlad. The pillar bursts in two part, and lord Vishnu himself came out of the pillar, and killed that cruel king. That way the God saved his devotee.

Now rational thinkers may not believe such story, but it serves the purpose of creating

strong faith in the existence of the God. There are number of such stories in each religion, which are meant to educate the people regarding the importance of the religion.

Theory of hell and heaven:

Almost all the religions of earth are having their own idea of hell and heaven. The hypothesis is very simple. Those who are engaged in wrong, anti-human and anti-religious actions will be punished by the God, by sending them to hell after death. At the same time those who are engaged in rightful actions, obey the commands of the religion and perform humanitarian task, will be rewarded by the god, by sending them to the heaven after death.

In the hell the inhabitants are supposed to be tortured by the agents of the god. All the known and imaginable means of torture are supposed to be available in the hell. The degree of torture is supposed to be proportionate to the level of his bad actions during life. While in the heaven, the inhabitants will be enjoying the life. They will be getting good food, will be served well by the agents of the god and will have all the expected luxuries of the life. They will get good food to eat, good house to live and can enjoy

good music, dancing and all the means of entertainment. It is presumed that the God is the supreme judge, who will pass the decree of punishment or reward considering souls qualities of actions during his life on the earth.

As per the theory of Karma, in Hinduism, the account of good and bad actions of each person is maintained by the highest authority. As per the quantum of his good or bad action, his duration of stay either in the heaven or hell will be decided by the authority. He will stay in the heaven or hell, for the specified period, and on the expiry of that period, he will take another birth on the earth. This cycle will continue till his soul will be evolved to the highest state of Moksha, or liberation.

Those who are rational thinkers do not believe in the theory of hell and heaven. They say that there is no place like hell or heaven in any part of the universe. Hell and heaven are nothing but the imagination of the religious leaders. As per their opinion, death is annihilation of the life. Whether we believe in the theory of hell and heaven, or we may not believe in the theory, but the concept has definite effect on the thinking process and behavior of the common people. The idea of hell and heaven affects on their day to day life style and their behavior. Those who are

follower of the religion and those who believe in the existence of the God, also accept the theory of hell and heaven. With the effect they become self disciplined and self righteous man. Fear of the hell prohibits them from doing wrong action, and expectation of heaven, motivates them for doing good and humanitarian work. So the theory of hell and heaven has strong effect on maintaining the serenity in the community.

Why people join religion?

Any rational thinker can ask the question, that what are the forces that motivate the people to join the religion?

Basic need of the human being is the survival. This requires enough food, shelter and security. Once this primary desire is fulfilled, the man seeks for happiness. He desires not only to live life, but to live happy life. The religion promises both, security, and hope for happiness in the life.

The human being is physically weak, compared to number of other animals. Not only that, but he is also afraid of other strong man in the community. Living in the group gives him sense of security. Belief in god, also gives him sense of security. The religious leaders have always preached that if you worship the god, he will take care of you and your family. Such preaching motivates the people to join the religion. Most of the religion preaches for non- violence. Killing other person for selfish motive is considered as wrongful action. With the effect it reduces violence in the group, which again gives sense of safety and security. Once the person becomes the member of some religious group,

he gets help by other members at the time of difficulties and danger. So it is always desirable to live as member of some religious group. Once the person joins one specific religious group, his successors automatically accept the same religion.

Religious wars:

There is very long history of religious wars. Perhaps it is as long as the age of oldest religion on this earth. There are evidences of wars between each of the major and minor religions. In the European countries, specifically in the Jerusalem and adjoining areas, there were wars between Islamic and Christian groups. Those wars lasted for several years. There were also wars between Jews and Christians. Even there were wars between Jews and Palestinians. Wars were fought in the Europe, in the France, in the African countries, in India and in china.

Millions of innocent people have died due to those so called holy wars. In Islamic faith, religious wars are named as Jihad. In some religions it is named as holy wars. In India it is called Dharma yuddha. Not only there were wars between major religious groups, but there were incidences of wars between sub-groups of the same religion. In Islam, the major divisions are Shia and Sunni. In number of countries, there was fierce fight between these two groups. In U.K. and some of the European countries, the Protestants and Catholics have fought for very long period.

It seems that those wars were the out come of deep rooted religious conflicts. Religious conflicts were generated from numerous reasons. The main reasons were ethical, cultural, racial, economical and political. None of the wars were fought on the bases of differences in the beliefs, or differences in the central and basic philosophy of the religion, because the ordinary soldiers, who were fighting the wars, were hardly capable of knowing and understanding the core philosophy of their own religion or that of the religion of the enemy. They were motivated and instigated to fight on the name of God. The religious leaders or the rulers, who were the driving force behind such wars, were most of the time egoistic and power hungry. Their main intent was either to enhance their power or to enhance their kingdom. With such selfish motive in the mind, they instigate innocent people to fight with innocent people of other religion or religious groups.

Brain washed by such selfish leaders, the followers of one religious group, fight with that of other religious group, without perceiving the ultimate consequences of such wars. Millions of innocent people have died due to such holy wars, millions of ladies have lost their husbands and sons, millions of innocent people have lost their properties due to such so called holy wars.

In depth analysis of any religion reveals that God is the supreme power, and he is responsible for creation and protection of living beings. All the present religions are preaching for non-violence, love, peace and humanity. None of the religion has commanded for killing innocent and weak people. On the contrary they preach for helping and protecting the weak section of the community. If that is so, if the religion is driving for humanity, peaceful living and happiness in the life, then why to fight on the name of the religion. Wars on the name of religion can never be justified.

As such those who had started the wars were non- religious in true sense. They had initiated the wars not for the sake of religion, but for the sake of getting more power and political advantage.

Religious conversions:

Activity of religious conversions is quite common in most of the major religions of this globe. Conversion is some time done by force or some time done by enticing the people by free education, medical aid, or comforts of the life. As per the evidence in the history, thousands of non-muslims were converted to

Islam by force. When Muslim rulers attacked India in 10th or 11th century, thousands of Hindus were converted to Islam by force. During the time of Muslim rulers, thousands of Hindus were forced to accept Islam. Same way, thousands of Christians was converted to Islam by force in european and arab countries.

During middle ages i.e. 1500-1950, Britishers invaded number of countries in Africa, Asia and South America. Christian missionaries took the advantage of the power of the British rule. They started campaign of converting aboriginals of respective countries. Most of the conversions were done by offering various material enticements to the poor people.

Why religious conversion?

Conversion is the hidden component of most of the religions. None of the religious books or commands has made it mandatory for the religious leaders, to encourage conversion. Conversion can be voluntary. It can not be by force or by enticements of material benefits. If the individual is convinced by the central philosophy of one particular religion, then he is free to adopt that religion. As such the religion is the way of life, and each individual has right to choose his own way of life. But conversion by free will is very rare. Most of the conversions are either by force, or by the

strong desire of gaining some material advantage.

Most of the religious leaders are kin to have maximum followers of their religion or sect. the state of higher number of followers, gives them more power and strength. As such if basic philosophy of any religion is analyzed in depth, it will be revealed that there is no place for conversion. Almost all the religions strongly believe that the God is the supreme power, and he is the creator and protector of all the living beings.

At the same time humanity is the second major component of all the religions of the earth. Now if the belief regarding the God and humanity is same in all the religions, then why to change the religion. The god being protector of all the humans on this earth, he will protect all the humans. He can not discriminate between various communities; he can not discriminate between religions. He can not say that because some body is not Christian or not Muslim, I will not protect him. He can not say that only Muslims will get entry in the heaven and others will not get entry simply because they have not adopted Islam. Moksha is not the only right of Hindus. Anybody who follows the rule of non-attachment and renunciation can get Moksha.

If the god has created all the living being, then he becomes the father of each individual on this earth. And for the loving father his all the sons and daughters are equal. The father will not discriminate between white and black, between Christian, Muslims, Buddhists or Hindus.

There is single supreme power. Somebody perceives him as God, some body perceives him as Allah, and some body perceives him as Ishwar. As such he is unknowable, imperceptible, unborn and immortal. For him all the living beings, like man, animals, birds and fishes are equal. To perceive him as partial to certain caste, sex, communities or religion, is the total ignorance on the side of human and specifically for the religious leaders.

In the eyes of God, as far as the man lives his peaceful life, and does not hurt other person for his selfish motives, the person is good and holy. And such persons are entitled to get favor of the Supreme Being. So it is totally wrong to believe that accepting certain specific religion will make the man more acceptable by the God.

Faith and blind faith in the religion:

It is very difficult to draw sharp line between the faith and the blind faith. Faith is required to strengthen self confidence and to create strong bond with the religion and with the God. While blind faith leads to degeneration of sound and rational reasoning power.

Logical thinker can draw the line between faith and blind faith. But the level of that line can differ from person to person. Discriminating faith from the blind faith, depends upon individual's perception of the life, rationality of his thought process, his knowledge and his ability for logic reasoning.

For example belief in the existence of the God, is blind faith in the eyes of the atheist. In the eyes of atheist, the God does not exists, with the result all the prayers, worships, religious ceremonies, and rituals are nothing but the out come of blind faith. But for the theist it is the real faith.

Understanding of the faith differs from religion to religion. Worshiping the idol is considered as blind faith by non-Hindus, while for the Hindu it is mandatory ritual for pleasing the God. Eating pig's meat is prohibited in Islam,

while for the Christians it is one of the delicious dishes.

It is also known fact that most of the religious leaders have contributed their major role in generating blind faith among the followers. Most common is establishing the superiority of their God, above the God of other religion. If there is single creator of the universe and if he is supreme power, then to believe that the God of one specific religion is superior to all other Gods, is nothing but the blind faith.

“Those who will come under the shelter of my God will be saved and protected, and those who will not believe in my God, will be punished” is nothing but the intentional attempt to create blind faith in the minds of the followers.

Belief in the existence of the hell and heaven is nothing but the blind faith created by the religious leaders.

Some specific days are auspicious and some other days are inauspicious, is nothing but the belief having no logical reasoning. It is believed in Hindus, that if some one takes bath in river Ganga on some specific auspicious day, their all the sins will be cleared off by the God. With the result on that specific day, millions of people go to river Ganga to take bath. Most of the time because

of unmanageable crowd and lack of sufficient infrastructure, hundreds of people die either by the accident, or by the disease.

It is well known fact that number of times, some religious leader, have predicted exact time and day for the end of the earth and that of human race. With the result, people in various countries prepared themselves for the final destination. They sold their properties and reach to the safe place to save themselves from the massive disaster. Ultimately nothing happened; all such forecasts were turned out to be false.

I remember that before few years, there was the religious rumor that idol of Ganesh drinks milk if it is offered to him by his devotee. With the effect thousands of Hindus not only in India, but all over the world, reached to near by Ganesh temple to offer him milk.

With the advancement of the education and with the knowledge of the science, more and more persons have started thinking rationally. With the result color of blind faith is gradually fading.

Religion a tool for getting material benefit:

Basic philosophy of any religion is to advocate the message of God, to teach positive ethics of life, to propagate righteous culture and humanity, among the followers. The religious leaders are expected to teach truthfulness, integrity, honesty, non-violence, love and contentment to their followers. The basic endeavor of any religion should be creating environment for happiness and peace in the community.

Most of the religions are following the right track earmarked by their founders. But each organization is having black sheep. Most of the followers are walking on the right path, but there are few who utilizes the organization of the religion, as a tool for satisfying their selfish motives.

Most of the religious wars or so called holy wars were not fought for bringing the peace in the society, but it was fought for gaining political power. Politicians and rulers have misused the religion for achieving their political goal.

Most of the religions on the earth are for maintaining peace and happiness in the

society. They preach for love and non-violence. They say that 'love thy neighbor as thy selves', then how one can justify killing thousands of innocent people on the name of religion.

It is observed that most of the time religious fundamentalists, being rigid in their religious beliefs, initiated war and killed the people on the name of religion and on the name of God. As such god has never directly or indirectly asked the people to kill other persons just because other person does not believe in your religious philosophy of God.

In each religion the religious leaders and priests are respected by the commoners. Some of the leaders and priests do take advantage of this respect and apply various unethical strategies, to collect huge funds and properties for their personal benefits.

The religious leaders are graded [in the eyes of the commoners] with the number of followers they have. With the result they apply various tactics to enhance the number of their followers. More followers give them more power, high religious status and prestige.

It is also observed that in some organizations, the funds collected by the donations, are utilized for constructing huge, and impressive temples. The funds are also utilized for decorating temples and idols, by costly metals

like gold. Millions of rupees are spend for such purpose. The temple, church or mosque is the place for worshipping the God. The place of worship should be simple and comfortable. The God does not demand for huge and costly temples or churches. What the God demands is devotion, love and humanity. Instead of spending millions of rupees for constructing costly temples, and instead of decorating the God by costly jewels, [as such he does not require any such decorations], the same money can be utilised for health, education and welfare of the poor and needy people. Of course spending money for the poor may not give status and prestige to the religious leaders, which they get by constructing huge and costly temple.

Factors common in each religion:

Comparative study of main religions has revealed that there are many factors, which are common in each religion. As it is mentioned before that basic motive of each religion, is to ensure trust in god, to create congenial environment so that each individual in the community can have happy, contented and peaceful life. With the effect the architect of each religion is designed to fulfill that basic motive.

Common factors:

- 1] Most of the religions believe in the existence of the God. They do believe that God is the creator and prime cause of whole universe. He is omnipotent, omnipresence and omniscient. He is absolute authority, he is present everywhere, and he knows every thing.
- 2] It is also believed by all the religions that there is only one God, and he is responsible for welfare of the people.
- 3] It is also believed that the God is imperceptible by ordinary sensual organs. He has no definite shape or definite color.
- 4] Most of the religions believe that the God is sending his commands through prophets. For sending his divine messages, the God selects

the person who is holy and pure as his media,.

5] It is also believed that the God, loves all living beings including man, animals, birds, and fishes. As such he does not discriminate between man and animal, or between rich and poor. In front of him all the living beings are equal.

6] It is also believed that the God punishes those who are engaged in wrong actions, and he rewards to those who are engaged in right actions. Of course the definitions of wrong and right actions varies with different religions. The God is considered as supreme judge for the whole world.

The second section of each religion, deals with conduct related to humanity. Most of the religions preach and recommend for love, non-violence, truthfulness, integrity, contentment and humanity. Loving and helping other human being, is the major factor of each religion. None of the religion has advocated killing, injuring or distressing other living being for the sake of selfish motive.

Lord Buddha had proclaimed that the human life is full of problems. The central and basic cause of the problems is human selfishness. And solution for the problems is compassion for each living being. Jesus Christ had said that 'love thy neighbor as thy selves.' The main

theme of the Hinduism is 'live and let live.' In Jainism killing insect is also prohibited. Helping poor and the needy, is considered as major virtue. In each religion philanthropic actions are highly respected.

It concludes that major factors related to the philosophy of God, and humanity is common in every religion. The difference is in the methods of worshiping and religious rituals.

Natural Religion:

Corresponding word for 'religion' is 'Dharma' in Hinduism. Dharma is having wider meaning than religion. Dharma is the Sanskrit word. Exact meaning of the word 'Dharma' is "basic character of the subject or object." For example Dharma of fire is to burn, and Dharma of water is to make it wet. Dharma of diamond is its capacity of reflecting the light. And Dharma of the Gold is its stability. Same way Dharma of human being is humanity.

Now let us analyze the question of Dharma from different angle. The natural aim of life is nothing but self survival and species survival. For that purpose the nature has provided every living being on this earth, an inbuilt sense of preserving the self. With the effect the sense of finding food, and protecting the self from the life threatening danger, is natural in each living being. Same way each living being possess natural instinct for the reproduction, which ultimately helps for preserving the species.

The human being who is more social, emotional and intelligent has added third factor. That third factor is the happiness in the life. So for human being, there are three principle aims in his life, i.e. self survival,

species survival and happy life. Of course the definition of happiness widely differs from individual to individual. The main endeavor of man is to be happy in life. Happiness depends mainly upon the life style of the individual. So each person should design and should prefer such a life style which can give happiness to self, to the family and to the community.

Basically most of the religions are designed keeping in view the main aims of life. Individual happiness can not sustain if the family or the society is not happy. With the effect there are rules and commands for the member of the religion, which ultimately brings peace and happiness for the self, for the family and for the society.

Designing the life style or the Dharma for the self:

It matters very little whether one believes in the existence of the God or not. It is the matter of debate whether the God is responsible for the creation of universe or the universe has evolved by it self. If the God exists, and if he is the creator and supreme authority of the world, he will continue to be the creator and supreme authority of the world. The belief or disbelief of the man for his authority and supremacy, will not affect his status and actions. It is illogical to think that the God bestows his blessings on only those who worship him. If he has created the universe along with all the living being, he can not be biased for his own creation. Showing positive attitude towards the worshipers and negative attitude toward the non-worshipers is the character of the man, not of the God.

Same way it makes hardly any difference whether one believes and worship the God, Ishwar or Allah, because these are the different names given by the different religion to the same supreme power and authority.

But believing in the God enhances self confidence. It gives sense of security. Submitting the self to the highest power and

authority, will automatically dissolve personal ego. Ego is the main cause for the mental distress and unhappiness in the life.

Worshipping the God, will indirectly bring peace and happiness in the life.

Humanity is the second and main component of any religion. One can not get happiness, without following the path of humanity. This is because humanity is the inborn natural instinct of the human being. Nobody likes to kill other living being. Love is the nature of the man, while hatred is generated from selfish motive. The path of humanity leads to peace in life. Humanity advocates integrity, honesty, truthfulness, contentment and love toward each living being. It also prohibits greed, anger, delusion, revenge, hatred, and unhealthy competition for getting material benefit. Helping poor and needy gives inner joy.

It is quite natural to walk on the path of progress in life. But the methods adopted for alleviating the self, should not be harmful and injurious to other living being. Selfishness is inborn and natural, but the selfishness should not be perverted. For the fulfillment of the self desires and goals, one should not rob, cheat or kill other individual. Self attainment should

not be at the cost of rights, interests and privileges of other individual.

Live and let live should be the motto of life.

The factors mentioned above can help to design and architect personal life style and religion to achieve happiness in the life.

One may select his own philosophy for the God.

One may select to be atheist, monotheist or polytheist. The selection depends upon personal attitude and aptitude towards supreme power.

One may select is own way of preying and worshipping the God. [Provided he has not selected to be atheist].

One may select his own rituals to be followed in life.

One may select to worship the God in the temple, or at home.

One may design his own methods of performing humanitarian work.

It is your own life and you have full right to design your way of life.

Adopting family religion is like staying in the ancestor's house. Adopting any well established religion is like purchasing the house from the housing society, where design

of all the houses are same, and are as per the design adopted by the builder.

Designing own life style or religion, is like designing and constructing own house as per personal likings, and as per the personal requirement of comforts.